Chinook Salmon

Chinook salmon population abundance[†]

Progress Toward the 2020 Target Stop the overall decline and start seeing improvements in wild Chinook abundance in two to four populations in each biogeographic region. **Status of salmon populations across 5 regions * Status is the change from 2006 to 2010.

Is There Progress Toward the 2020 Target?

For the 22 remaining populations of Puget Sound Chinook salmon, one increased and one declined in abundance from 2006 to 2010. Thus, none of the five regions are currently meeting their target of improving trends in two to four populations in each region.

The total number of Chinook salmon has not increased, and most populations remain well short of their recovery goals. Nonetheless, the fact that we have any natural-origin Chinook left is testament to the success of our restoration and harvest reduction work so far.

[†]This report is adapted from the 2012 State of the Sound because no new data were available.

Table 3.6. Puget Sound Chinook Abundance and Trends

Region/population		Recovery goal ¹	Natural-origin spawners	Natural-origin recruits (spawners + harvest)		
		Range	5 year average ² (2006-2010)	5 year average (2006-2010)	5 year trend ³ (2006-2010)	10 year trend ³ (2001-2010)
Strait of Georgia	N Fk Nooksack	3,800-6,000	274	470		
	S Fk Nooksack	2,000-9,100	265	475		
Strait of Juan de Fuca	Elwha	6,900-17,000	126	282		Decreasing
	Dungeness	1,200-4,700	122	336		
Hood Canal	Skokomish	Unknown	501	863	Decreasing	
	Mid-Hood Canal	1,300-5,200	45	78		Decreasing
Whidbey Basin	Suiattle	160-610	219	301		
	N Fk Stillaquamish	4,000-18,000	465	803		
	S Fk Stillaquamish	3,600-15,000	79	133		Decreasing
	Cascade	290-1,200	315	431		
	Upper Sauk	750-3,030	584	812		
	Lower Sauk	1,400-5,600	620	1,252		
	Skykomish	8,700-39,000	2,336	3,081		Decreasing
	Snoqualmie	5,500-25,000	1,390	3,013		Decreasing
	Upper Skagit	5,380-26,000	8,118	15,134		Decreasing
	Lower Skagit	3,900-16,000	1,629	3,252		
Central/South Puget Sound	White	unknown	1,216	1,435		Decreasing
	Green/Duwamish	27,000	1,311	6,005		Decreasing
	Sammamish	1,000-4,000	92	148	Increasing	
	Cedar	2,000-8,200	807	1,389		
	Nisqually	3,400-13,000	501	3,000		
	Puyallup	5,300-18,000	831	1,520		Decreasing

¹ High and low productivity planning targets from Table 2 "Chinook Spawner Abundance Planning Targets & Ranges for Puget Sound Region" in Final Supplement to the Shared Strategy's Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan. November 2006. National Marine Fisheries Service.

Indicator Lead:

Recovery Implementation Technical Team

For more in-depth information, please see:

www.psp.wa.gov/vitalsigns/salmon.php

² Averages are geometric means; data from NOAA's Northwest Fisheries Science Center's Salmon Population Summary database.

 $^{^3}$ Significance of trends (p < 0.05) was calculated using methods reported in NOAA's Status Review Update for Pacific Salmon and Steelhead Listed under the Endangered Species Act (Ford [ed.], 2011).